IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Kenji Hirooka, et al.,

Examiner:

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Serial No:

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Dated:

September 9, 2003

OPERATION UNDER

MICROSCOPE

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 9, 2003.

Dated: September 9, 2003

Thomas Spinelli